## ORDINANCE NO. 619

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE III OF TITLE 17 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE CITY OF LAS ANIMAS AS RELATES TO WEEDS.

WHEREAS, the City of Las Animas, Colorado has previously enacted legislation with regard to the required removal of weeds; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that it is in the best interest of the City that the requirements be made more stringent so as to ensure that the citizens comply with the timely removal of weeds.

BE IT ORDAINED AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. That Section 17-21 is repealed in its entirety.

**SECTION 2.** The following new section 17-21 is enacted as follows:

## Section 17-21. Assessment of City's Expenses in Removing; Assessment to Constitute Lien; Payment in Assessment.

- (A) The City Clerk shall assess the cost of the removal of the weeds, brush and rubbish, plus five percent of the cost thereof, or the sum of \$25.00, whichever is greater, for inspection, against the owners of each lot or tract from which the weeds, brush and rubbish were removed. The amount so assessed shall be a lien in the several amounts assessed against each lot or tract of land until the same is paid and shall have priority over all other liens, except general taxes and prior special assessments, and shall be due and payable at the time of the assessment by the owners of the property. Such assessment shall be paid within thirty days from the time the assessment is made.
- (B) In the event that the City Clerk is required to provide for the removal of the weeds, brush and/or rubbage, as provided in Section 17-21.A above, the City Clerk may provide for the removal under either of the following two circumstances:
  - 1. Allow for a City employee to provide for the removal and to require repayment of the same at the rate of \$35.00 per hour for the time required of that employee; or

- 2. Put the removal requirements to bid with an independent contractor.
- (C) The election, as required by for Section (B) above, shall be at the sole discretion of the City Clerk, once abatement has been authorized.
- (D) The hourly rate of pay for a City employee to abate the nuisance required pursuant to Section 17-21(b)(1), may be changed from time to time by resolution of City Council.

ADOPTED on first reading this 9th day of November, 1999.

PASSED on second reading as amended this 14th day of December, 1999.

CITY OF LAS ANIMAS

William F. Howland, Mayor

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Leslie J. Uncel, City Clerk

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